

Torrance California  
October 16, 1945

MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR  
MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in an Adjourned Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Tuesday, October 16, 1945 at 8:30 P.M., Mayor Tolson having declared a recess at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor Tolson called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being Councilmen Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Being an adjourned meeting, the regular order of business was dispensed with.

A communication was read from Mrs. Cora B. Washburn, 728 Portola Avenue, requesting that Sartori Avenue be resurfaced from Torrance Boulevard to Portola Avenue.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request be referred to the City Engineer for recommendation at a future meeting. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication addressed to Mayor Tolson was read from the Inglewood Chamber of Commerce, extending an invitation to attend the formal opening of the branch office of the Collector of Internal Revenue in Inglewood Friday, October 19, 1945.

Mayor Tolson reported that he will be unable to attend due to a previous engagement and said Judge Willett had tentatively agreed to represent the City at this function. Judge Willett advised, verbally, that, if his schedule permits, he will attend the opening.

Mayor Tolson requested Clerk Bartlett to telephone the Inglewood Chamber of Commerce and advise that Judge Willett expects to attend the program and luncheon.

A communication was read from the American Red Cross, suggesting that, inasmuch as the Chamber of Commerce must move to new quarters, a share-the-building plan be worked out between the Red Cross and the Chamber for use of the building being used by the Red Cross and which building was the former home of the Chamber.

Councilman Powell pointed out that, although the Chamber at one time occupied the building now used by the Red Cross, the building is owned by the City of Torrance and, he said, he would like it made clear that the Chamber of Commerce has no actual jurisdiction over the building so far as authorizing any organization to use it.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the request of the Red Cross that a share-the-building plan be worked out between that organization and the Chamber of Commerce for occupancy of the City-owned building now in use by the Red Cross be granted, and that both organizations be advised to this effect. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from W. H. Stanger, Manager, Torrance Municipal Water District No. 1, relative to the water adjudication suit instigated by the California Water Service Company. It was advised by Mr. Stanger that the schedule of cost as set forth in his letter of October 9, 1945, and read at the Council meeting of that date, had been presented to the other interested participants in the suit, and is satisfactory to all concerned.

He advised that, upon contacting the attorney, Mr. Kenneth K. Wright, selected by the California Water Service Company to prepare the complaint, he had been advised that it will be necessary, under the 1927 Improvement District Act, to name the City of Torrance as the co-plaintiff, with the understanding that the Torrance Muni-

cipal Water District will pay all expenses. It was suggested that the Council notify Mr. Wright of its intention to join as co-plaintiff and authorize him to act as counsel for the City of Torrance.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Mr. Stanger's suggestion be complied with, and Clerk Bartlett be authorized to notify Mr. Kenneth K. Wright, Attorney-at-law, of the intention of the City of Torrance to join California Water Service Company as co-plaintiff in a suit to adjudicate the water rights of the West Basin. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

A communication was read from the County of Los Angeles, Superintendent of Schools, advising that a request had been received for a pedestrian crossing guard at the intersection of 182nd Street and Hawthorne Boulevard for the protection of children attending the Perry School. It was requested that, inasmuch as the crosswalks are within the Torrance City limits, the City Council give the matter careful consideration.

Chief Stroh had affixed a, "for Council action", note to the letter, whereupon Councilman Powell moved that Chief Stroh be authorized to investigate the condition and employ a crossing guard for the corner mentioned if conditions warrant, salary to be paid from the Police budget if possible; otherwise, from the General Fund. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

A communication was read from W. H. Stanger, Manager of Torrance Municipal Water District No. 1, recommending that the salary of Mr. Gordon F. Arnold be increased from \$170.00 to \$185.00 per month, effective October 1, 1945.

All the Council members were in favor of this recommendation, stating that this constitutes an adjustment in Mr. Arnold's salary due to the fact that increases were given while he was away on Military leave, but that he had returned to work at the same rate of salary he received prior to entering the Service. Councilman Gilbert said he sincerely felt that the pay increase should not only be authorized, but that it should be made retroactive to the time he returned from the Service and resumed his position.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the recommendation of Mr. Stanger be concurred in by allowing the increase as requested, and that Mr. Stanger be consulted relative to the propriety of making the increase retroactive to the time Mr. Arnold returned from Military leave to his position with the Water Department. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

A communication was read from the Superintendent of Torrance Municipal Water District No. 1, requesting authorization for the Water Superintendent to attend the American Water Works Association convention at the Biltmore on October 23, 24 and 25, 1945.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Mr. Stanger be authorized to attend the convention, expenses paid. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the lease between the City of Torrance and the Pacific Electric Railway Company, covering two foot strip of Pacific Electric Railway Company's Torrance Line right of way property, along Torrance Boulevard between Border Avenue and Western Avenue, be renewed beginning October 1, 1945 and ending September 30, 1946. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the assessment diagram of the 203rd Street Sewer Project, as prepared by Engineer Jain, be approved. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the official map of Municipal Water District No. 1 (South Torrance, WALTERIA area) be approved. Councilman Powell seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the Council authorize employment of Mr. Harold A. Barnett, Engineer, to make a survey of the proposed sewer project in South Torrance. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Powell read a communication from Chief of Police Stroh and Chief of the Fire Department, McMaster, recommending that a two-way radio set be purchased and installed at the fire station as a means of improving communications between Torrance and the WALTERIA area, at a cost of not to exceed \$350.00. Also, it was recommended that signs be posted along the highway advising where and how to contact the fire and police stations.

Councilman Powell moved that the radio as requested be purchased, and that an appropriation of not to exceed \$350.00 be made for same, this amount to be paid from the Police Department equipment fund if same was budgeted, otherwise from the General Fund. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

Councilman Powell read a communication from Chief McMaster, recommending that the Smith hydrants located at the following places be replaced with new Jones hydrants, which new hydrants are on hand at the Water Department:

1. Southeast corner of Carson Street and Crenshaw Boulevard.
2. Southeast corner of Jefferson Street and Crenshaw Boulevard.
3. South side of Jefferson Street at Oak Street.
4. Southwest corner of Jefferson Street and Vine Street.
5. Southeast corner of Crenshaw Boulevard and Washington Street.
6. Southwest corner of Crenshaw Boulevard and Washington Street.


Councilman Powell moved that the recommendation of the Fire Chief be complied with. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Hitchcock, Powell and Tolson. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Cucci.

#### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. George Thatcher suggested that, when the survey is made of the proposed sewer project in South Torrance, the WALTERIA area be included. He was advised that the immediate concern relative to the WALTERIA area is the water situation, and that, upon conclusion of that matter, other improvements can be discussed.

Mr. Reed Parkin, President of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, expressed appreciation for action taken earlier in the meeting relative to the share-the-building plan outlined by the Red Cross.

At 8:55 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Gilbert, seconded by Councilman Hitchcock, the meeting adjourned.

  
CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:

  
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE